

A Female Cardinal Wintering in Concord, Mass.— Mrs. Russell Robb of Concord gives me permission to record the presence of a female Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) on her place on Punkatasset Hill. The bird was first seen on the 28th of January, 1905, and on February 23 is still about. During the winter months when the days were short the bird would come to be fed at nine in the morning and early in the afternoon. Now that the days are longer it comes by six A. M., and in the afternoon not until four.

This is the second female beside the one that bred in Cambridge, to be noted in Massachusetts. — REGINALD HEBER HOWE, JR., *Concord, Mass.*

Decrease of Purple Martins on Long Island, N. Y.— Seeing a note on Purple Martins in Concord, Mass., a short time ago in 'The Auk,' I thought the following might possibly be of some interest. Three summers ago, Purple Martins (*Progne subis*) were very common at Quogue, L. I., and bred in boxes erected for their occupation. The summer of 1903 they had decreased in number, and last summer they had disappeared apparently from the locality. I am afraid English Sparrows took possession of their boxes.

The summer of 1903, I killed a Black-breasted Plover (*Squatarola squatarola*) on July 1, as recorded in 'The Auk' (XXI, p. 79). Last summer I saw one on July 6, with a very black breast, but unfortunately missed him. Snipe and Plover were exceedingly rare all last summer. — F. W. KOBBE, *New York City.*

The Loggerhead Shrike in Connecticut in Winter.— I am indebted to Mr. Wilbur F. Smith, of South Norwalk, Conn., for the opportunity of recording the capture of a very dark-colored specimen of the Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) taken at South Norwalk, Conn., on February 17, 1905, and brought by him to me for identification. The bird was found wounded by the roadside, and brought alive to Mr. Smith, but died soon after being taken into the warm air of a house from a temperature of nearly zero out of doors. This may have hastened the bird's death, although it had lost one eye and the left half of the tail, and was found on dissection to have received severe internal injuries.

As there are several winter records for the Northern Loggerhead Shrike (*L. l. migrans*) in southern and middle New England, the chief interest in the present connection is the exceptionally dark coloration of the specimen, which is very much darker even than the darkest Florida specimen I have ever seen. The upper tail-coverts were nearly as dark as the back; the lower parts were as dark gray as is the back in an average specimen of *ludovicianus* from Florida or the Gulf States, while the upper parts were many shades darker; even the throat, lower tail-coverts, and the tips of the rectrices were strongly grayish white instead of clear white, as in ordinary specimens. The bird is thus strikingly darker than *migrans*, being, as said above, darker than even very dark specimens of